

corporate America and Wall Street to restore the principles of honesty and integrity to their proper place.

Mr. Donaldson also indicated a strong concern for the welfare of the SEC employees. He pledged to address issues of staff morale and union relations at the Agency.

I am hopeful that Mr. Donaldson will effectively manage the SEC and effectively enforce the Federal securities laws. I hope that he will bring about a new era of respect for the Agency and confidence in the U.S. securities markets.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now return to legislative session.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—S. 151

Mr. FRIST. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that at 3:30 p.m. on Monday, February 24, the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 7, S. 151, PROTECT Act; that there be 2 hours equally divided between the chairman and ranking member of the Judiciary Committee or their designees; that no amendments be in order; that upon the use or yielding back of time, the Senate proceed to a vote in relation to the matter, without any further intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

DO-NOT-CALL IMPLEMENTATION ACT

Mr. FRIST. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate immediately proceed to H.R. 395, which is being held at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 395) to authorize the Federal Trade Commission to collect fees for the implementation and enforcement of a "do-not-call" registry, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. McCAIN. Madam President, I am pleased that the Senate will pass H.R. 395, the Do-Not-Call Implementation Act, which was overwhelmingly approved by the House of Representatives yesterday.

All of us have been plagued by unwanted solicitations by telemarketers. Recently, the Federal Trade Commission did something about this and proposed regulations to create a national do no call registry that consumers can sign up for to avoid unwanted solicitations.

H.R. 395 authorizes the Federal Trade Commission, FTC, to collect offsetting fees from telemarketers to implement and enforce the registry as part of the Telemarketing Sales Rule. The legisla-

tion would authorize the FTC to collect these fees from telemarketers for Fiscal Years 2003 through 2007, and to move forward this year on setting up this much-needed registry. The legislation also directs the Federal Communications Commission to conclude its own relemaking regarding telemarketing calls which, given the FTC's lack of jurisdiction over certain industries, is an important component in creating an effective and comprehensive do not call option for consumers.

A one-stop option for consumers is overdue. In 1991, the Telephone Consumer Protection Act directed the Federal Communications Commission, FCC, to conduct a rulemaking to protect the privacy rights of residential telephone subscribers. The FCC could have enacted a national registry at that time, but chose instead of require telemarketers to maintain their own individual do not call lists. This means that at present, most consumers must contact, individually, every telemarketer who they do not want to call them. This far less than consumer-friendly regime has spurred more than twenty-five States to create their own do-not-call registries. I understand that many of these states support a national registry because maintenance of their lists is often burdensome, costly, and difficult to enforce. A national registry will not preempt these state laws. Rather, States will work in partnership with the national registry by sharing information and enforcement abilities. Harmonizing the FTC regulations with those of the FCC and the states, as I hope will soon occur, will give consumers and businesses alike a much more user-friendly system.

I recognize the importance of telemarketing to our economy and particularly to new competitors' market entry. Consumers, nevertheless, should be given a choice to opt out of receiving commercial solicitations, and the national do-not-call list proposed by the FTC gives them this option. The FTC has endeavored to balance the interests of consumers against the interest businesses have in communicating with existing customers and attracting new ones.

I commend the Federal Trade Commissioners and the FTC staff for their work on this issue, and thank my colleagues for supporting this measure.

Mr. FRIST. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read the third time, passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 395) was read the third time and passed.

CONSENT TO ASSEMBLE OUTSIDE THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT

Mr. FRIST. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consider-

ation of H. Con. Res. 1, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 1) regarding consent to assemble outside the seat of government.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. FRIST. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 1) was agreed to.

WELCOMING SUPPORT OF EUROPEAN NATIONS FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1441

Mr. FRIST. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Con. Res. 4 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will state the concurrent resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 4) welcoming the expression of support of 18 European nations for the enforcement of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1441.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. MCCAIN. Madam President, after leading the U.S. congressional delegation to the Munich Conference on Security Policy last weekend, Senator LIEBERMAN and I introduced this resolution to thank 18 Europeans for standing with us in demanding that Security Council resolutions against Iraq be enforced. Contrary to what you may read in the press, and despite shrill objections from Paris and Berlin, most European governments believe Iraq must be held to account for its defiance of Security Council Resolution 1441. France and Germany are isolated within Europe in their approach to enforcing, or in their case failing to enforce, Security Council resolutions regarding Iraq.

Recent actions by Paris and Berlin in the most important international fora—the Security Council, the North Atlantic Council, and the European Union—raise serious doubts among nations on both sides of the Atlantic about their commitment to multilateral diplomacy and cause real damage to those institutions.

The French and German objection, for reasons of calculated self-interest—a very flawed calculation, I fear—to a routine request to the North Atlantic Council to upgrade Turkey's defenses